

# SOBORNOST

**St. Thomas the Apostle Orthodox Church**

**(301) 638-5035 Church**

**4419 Leonardtown Road**

**Waldorf, MD 20601**

**Rev. Father Joseph Edgington, Pastor**

**(703) 532-8017**

[fredgington@gmail.com](mailto:fredgington@gmail.com)

[www.apostlethomas.org](http://www.apostlethomas.org)

*American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese*

*ECUMENICAL PATRIARCHATE  
OF CONSTANTINOPLE*

## SERVICES

**Wednesday: Lay Vespers 6:30 PM**

**Saturday: Confession 4:30 PM**

**Great Vespers 5:00 PM**

**Sunday: Matins (Orthros) 8:45 AM**

**Sunday School 9:30 AM**

**Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM**

**October 30, 2022 – 20<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost**

**Holy Hieromartyr Zenobius & Martyr Zenobia**

*Steadfast with you before the sword Zenobius, was the stout-hearted woman  
Zenobia. Zenobius and his sister were beheaded on the thirtieth.*

Zenobius and Zenobia were brother and sister from the town of Aegea in Cilicia. They inherited the true faith and great material wealth from their parents. At the death of their parents they worked zealously for the faith and with great love, distributing all their wealth to the poor. Because their hands were so generous, the hand of God shielded them from every evil intent of men and demons. The generous hands of Zenobius, which gave to the poor, were endowed by God with the gift of miracle-working, and Zenobius healed the sick of every kind of infirmity merely by touching them. Zenobius was appointed Bishop of Aegea because he showed great love to the people of God.

During the persecution of Emperor Diocletian in the year 290, the Prefect Lysias arrested Bishop Zenobius and said: "I offer you two choices: life or death; life if you worship the gods, or death if you do not." Bishop Zenobius replied: "Life without Christ is not life but death, whereas death for the sake of Christ is not death but life." When Bishop Zenobius was subjected to cruel tortures, such as



hanging him from a trestle and dismembering his body, Zenobia came to the judge in anger and said: "I also want to drink from this cup of suffering, and be crowned with that wreath." After being tortured by being stretched out on an iron bed covered with burning coals and thrown in boiling pitch, to which they were insensible by being refreshed with the dew of heaven, both were beheaded with the sword outside the city. Thus this brother and sister took up their habitation in the Kingdom of the Immortal Christ the King. *(from johnsanidopoulos.com)*

### **Today's Epistle Lesson – St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians 1:11-19 EOB**

Brethren, as regards the Good News which I preached, I proclaimed this to you, brethren, that it is not of human origin. I did not receive it from man and I was not taught [this Good News] by man, but it came to me through a revelation of Jesus Christ. You have heard about how I used to live in Judaism, how I persecuted the Church of God beyond measure, and how I ravaged it. I advanced in the Jewish religion beyond many of my own age among my countrymen, as I was more extremely zealous for the traditions of my forefathers. But when it was the good pleasure of God, (who had set me apart from my mother's womb and called me through his grace, to reveal his Son in me so that I might preach him among the Gentiles), I did not immediately confer with flesh and blood: I did not go up to Jerusalem to visit those who were apostles before me, but I went away into Arabia. Later on, I returned to Damascus. Then, after three years, I did go up to Jerusalem to visit Peter and I stayed with him for fifteen days. However, I did not see any of the other apostles, a except James, 'the Lord's brother.'

### **Today's Gospel Lesson – Saint Luke 8:26-39 EOB**

At that time, they sailed to the country of the Gadarenes, which is opposite Galilee. When Jesus stepped ashore, a man from the town who had had demons for a long time came to meet him. This man wore no clothes, and he did not live in a house, but in the tombs. When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell down before him. With a loud voice, he said, "What do I have to do with you, Jesus, you Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me!" (For Jesus was commanding the unclean spirit to come out of the man). The unclean spirit had often seized the man and he was kept under guard, bound with chains and fetters. [But he had been] breaking the chains and was driven by the demon into deserted places. Jesus asked him, "What is your name?" He replied, "Legion," for many demons had entered into him. And they begged him not to command them to go into the abyss. Now, there was a large herd of swine feeding on the mountain, and the demons begged him that he would allow them to enter into those [pigs]; and Jesus allowed them. The demons came out from the man and entered into the pigs. Then the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and [the swine] were drowned. When the people who fed the pigs saw what had happened, they fled and told the story in the

city and in the countryside. Then, people went out to see what had happened. They came to Jesus and found the man from whom the demons had gone out. He was sitting at Jesus' feet, clothed and in his right mind; and they were afraid. Those who had seen it told the people how the demon-possessed man had been delivered. All the people of the surrounding country of the Gadarenes asked Jesus to depart from them, because they were extremely afraid. So he got into the boat and went back. The man from whom the demons had gone out begged to go with Jesus, but Jesus sent him away, saying: "Return to your house and proclaim what great things God has done for you." So the man went on his way, proclaiming throughout the whole city what great things Jesus had done for him.

## A Word From the Holy Fathers

Among us the prince of the wicked spirits is called the serpent, and Satan, and the devil, as you can learn by looking into our writings. And that he would be sent into the fire with his host, and the men who follow him, and would be punished for an endless duration, Christ foretold. For the reason why God has delayed to do this, is His regard for the human race. For He foreknows that some are to be saved by repentance, some even that are perhaps not yet born. In the beginning He made the human race with the power of thought and of choosing the truth and doing right, so that all men are without excuse before God; for they have been born rational and contemplative.

– Martyr Justin the Philosopher, *Apology 1.28*

### **St. Joseph I Galesiotes, Patriarch of Constantinople**

Joseph I Galesiotes was a highly educated and virtuous monk who served twice as Patriarch of Constantinople, from 1266 to 1275 and from 1282 until shortly before his death in 1283. He is most notable as an opponent of Emperor Michael VIII Palaiologos' (known as the Latin-minded and the Azymite) plans to unite the Orthodox Church with the Catholic Church, for which he is recognized as a confessor by the Orthodox Church.

After being married for eight years he became a monk upon the death of his spouse. He served as a Reader from 1222 until 1254, and in 1259/60 became abbot of the Lazaros Monastery on Mount Galesios near Ephesus. Joseph became the confessor to Emperor Michael VIII Palaiologos (reigned 1259-82). In this capacity, he was sent in 1264 by Michael to Patriarch Arsenios Autoreianos to seek the lifting of the Patriarch's excommunication of the Emperor on account of the blinding of the young John IV Laskaris (r. 1258-61). Arsenios remained intransigent, however, and at length Michael deposed him and on 28 December 1266 named Joseph to the patriarchate. Joseph soon issued a pardon to the

emperor, which enraged the supporters of his predecessor and exacerbated the so-called "Arsenite Schism".

In 1272 Joseph officiated at the coronation of Andronikos II Palaiologos as co-emperor, but soon fell out with Michael VIII over the latter's projected union of the Orthodox Church with the Catholic Church. For Michael, who was threatened by the ambitions of Charles of Anjou, the Union was the sole instrument for preventing a full-scale assault by the Western powers on his empire, but the clergy and people of Byzantium almost universally opposed the concessions made to the Papacy on matters of doctrine and Papal supremacy. In 1273, Joseph swore an oath not to accept the Union under the terms set out by the Pope, and in early 1274, as the Constantinopolitan delegation prepared to travel to the Synod of Lyon to effect the Union, he retired from his official duties to the Peribleptos Monastery.

Joseph resigned his office on 9 January 1275, retiring to the Monastery of Anaplous and later to the town of Chele on the Black Sea coast, before returning to Constantinople in summer 1280 to the Monastery of Kosmidion. Following the death of Michael VIII in 1282, Andronikos II reversed his father's ecclesiastical policies, deposing the Latin-minded John XI Bekkos and recalling Joseph to the patriarchate (31 December 1282). Joseph's poor health however forced him to resign his office shortly before his death on 23 March 1283.

Due to his staunch anti-Unionite stance, he was declared a confessor by his successor Gregory II. He was later canonized, and is celebrated on 30 October as a Champion of Orthodoxy. *(from johnsanidopoulos.com)*

## **Holy Martyr Eutropia of Alexandria**

*Lit torches go before the bride Eutropia, as she enters the house of her noetic bridegroom.*

Saint Eutropia was a pious Christian woman from Alexandria who lived during a time when the Christians were being persecuted and killed for their faith, probably in the mid-third century. She would often visit these imprisoned holy martyrs and attended to their needs.

One day Eutropia was accused before Governor Apellianus for being a Christian, so she was arrested and brought to him. After confessing without fear her faith in Christ, she was given over to be tortured. First, they hung her up and tore at her flesh with iron claws, then they burned her with lit torches. However, this flame felt to her as if it was refreshing dew, as she confessed, and those who witnessed this, among whom were soldiers, affirmed that they saw an awe-inspiring man next to her that was refreshing her and cooling her off.

After facing even more torments, she was thrown into prison. The next day she was again brought before the governor, and she mocked his idols. For this he had

Eutropia's tongue cut out and then ordered that her holy head be cut off. Thus the blessed one delivered her soul into the hands of God, and received from him the crown of martyrdom. *(from johnsanidopoulos.com)*

### **Also Commemorated Today**

New Hieromartyr Eugene (Zernov), metropolitan of Nizhni Novgorod (1935).  
New Hieromartyr Leonid priest (1941).  
New Hieromartyr Mathew priest (1942).  
New Hiero-confessor Varnava (Nastic) of Bosnia (1964).  
Apostles Tertius, Mark, Justus, and Artemas of the Seventy (1st c.).  
Hieromartyr Marcian, bishop of Syracuse (2nd c).  
Martyr Anastasia of Thessalonica (3rd C).  
St. Stephen Milutin (1320), his brother St. Dragutin (monk Theoctistus) (1316), and their mother St. Helen (1306), wife of Urosh I of Serbia (Serbia).  
Martyrs Alexander, Cronion, Julian, Macarius, & 13 companions at Alexandria (250).  
Martyr Dometius of Phrygia.  
Apostle Cleopas (1st c.) (Greek).  
New Hieromartyr Nicanor (Kudriavtsev) bishop of Bogoroditsk.  
Martyr Jotham Zedgenidze, Paravani (1465) (Georgia).  
St. Talaric of Scotland, bishop (6<sup>th</sup> c.)  
St. Illogan of Cornwall, Confessor  
St. Egelnoth the Good of Glastonbury, Archbishop of Canterbury (1038)  
St. Leofric, Earl of Mercia  
Virgin-martyr Arilda of Gloucestershire  
Martyrs Claudius, Lupercus, and Victorius of Léon (c. 300)  
Ven. Eutropia of Auvergne (5<sup>th</sup> c.)  
St. Germanus, Bishop of Capua (545)  
St. Herbert, Archbishop of Tours  
Martyr Lucanus of Lagny (5<sup>th</sup> c.)  
Martyr Marcellus of Tangier (298)  
St. Nanterius, Abbot of Saint-Mihiel in Lorraine (1044)  
Martyr Saturninus of Cagliari (303)  
Hieromartyr Theonestus, Bishop of Philippi (425)

### **Social Team for November 6**

Team 3 is up next week - Edgington, Victor Barzykin, R&C Wright. Thank you!

### **.Become a Distinguished Diocesan Donor**

We would like to invite you to become a Distinguished Diocesan Donor. Help us to edify Christ by building up The American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese

ministries and apostolates through the Distinguished Diocesan Donors Program. We invite you to view our [brochure](#).

### Annual Donation Levels

\$100 - Entry  
\$250 - Bronze  
\$500 - Silver  
\$1,000 - Gold  
\$10,000 & Up – Platinum



### Making Your Contribution

It is easy to participate in the DDD Program: either donate via Apostle Thomas, marking your contribution for “DDD”, or visit <https://www.acrod.org/ministries/dddprogram/ddd-become> to donate online.

### Study on the Divine Liturgy Wednesday Evening

As a reminder, we are holding the Study Series: *Exploration of the Divine Liturgy* on Wednesdays in the parish hall (house behind the church) at 7:00 pm following Lay Vespers (6:30 - 7:00). In the series, will work through the Liturgy to understand why each part is there, its significance in our Corporate Worship and our personal Christian development with a goal of bringing us closer to Christ. We will look at historical writings and explanations to gain a better understanding of our Liturgy.

**The Diocesan website has been revamped – check it out! (link below)**

#### Follow Our Diocese On-Line

Diocesan Website: <http://www.acrod.org>  
Camp Nazareth: <http://www.campnazareth.org>  
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/acroddiocese>  
Twitter: <https://twitter.com/acrodnews>  
You Tube: <https://youtube.com/acroddiocese>

***In Your Prayers – Please Remember...*** His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch BARTHOLOMEW, His Eminence Metropolitan GREGORY, Fr. Joseph & Family, His Grace Bishop Neofitos of Nyeri & Mt. Kenya, Bennett family, Tatyana & Slava Chumak & family, Luke & Marlena Cooper, Roberta Corson, Jon Church, Tina Crull, Mary Diane David, Marlene Doukas, Linda A. Georgiev, Sandi Hebel, Howl family, Helen P. Janowiak, John M. Janowiak, Andrew Kinn, Kopan family, Helen, Brian, Luke and Mia Mahony, Valentina Makowelski, Susan Matula, Anna Meinhold, David & Kathryn Newman, Bobby Nutter & family, Nicholas Pavlik, Weston Perry & family, John Reece, Mary Reed, Marge Rusnak, Rose Song, Fr. Nectarios & Ia, Mother Virginia Marie & the Carmelite Nuns of Port Tobacco, the suffering people of Ukraine, and those in need of our prayers. (Please advise Fr. Joseph of changes.)